

Superior Court of California County of Orange

NEWS RELEASE

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Orange County Superior Court Partners with Legal Aid Society to Provide a Small Claims Court Advisory Program

Free assistance to anyone with questions regarding lawsuits in Orange County Small Claims Court will now be available through the Legal Aid Society of Orange County due to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has been signed with the Orange County Superior Court, announced Chief Executive Officer Alan Slater.

The Small Claims Advisory Program becomes effective July 1, 2000, and will provide general legal information and explain the Small Claims Court rules and procedures. Callers, who speak languages other than English, will be able to receive information in their primary language.

"I am pleased that the Court was able to partner with the Legal Aid Society of Orange County to provide this needed service. With a county that is approximately 33% Spanish speaking and 10% Asian, it is important that we provide our community with the means to understand and utilize our court system," said Slater.

In addition to the telephone hot line service, a web site is available for Small Claims Court information and will soon provide forms that can be easily downloaded for use by litigants. Regularly scheduled clinics will be held throughout Orange County to assist the public and brochures will also be made available.

Hotline: 714/571-5277

800/963-7717

Hours: Monday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Clinics: Call the Hotline for date, time

and locations

Or access the Advisor through the web at: <u>www.legal-aid.com</u>

For more information, contact Jeannette McSkane, a Director of the Superior Court, at (714) 834-5316 or William Tanner, Supervising Attorney, Small Claims Advisory Program, at (714) 571-5227.

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